

Freedom: The Unexpected Logic of Blood-Bought Liberty

What Makes the New Testament New?

Exodus 24:8–18

Pages 65 in Church Bible

The Lord's Day Morning

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The Bible is a book of sixty-six books with two main divisions: The Old Testament and the New Testament. Another word for testament is covenant. The Old Testament focuses on the Old Covenant given to God's people through Moses. The New Testament focuses on the New Covenant given to God's people through Jesus. Because the Old Covenant was never sufficient to bring us into the kind of close and intimate relationship with God that he desires, God replaced it with the New Covenant. When a person places faith in Christ alone for salvation, he or she enters into the New Covenant with God through Christ and receives all the superior promised blessings that come with it.

The Good Blessings of the Old Covenant Exodus 24	The Better Blessings of the New Covenant Hebrews 8
1. Mediated by Moses, a sinner (1–2).	1. Mediated by Jesus, the sinless one (1–2).
2. There are 613 cumbersome laws to obey (3).	2. Ceremonial and civil laws fulfilled in Christ are repealed (4–5).
3. Blood of animals cover sin with IOUs (6–8).	3. The blood of Christ removes sin forever (3,12).
4. Restricted access to knowing God through priests (9–11).	4. Full access to knowing God because every believer is a priest (11).
5. God's Word written in stone (12).	5. God's Word written on empowered hearts (10).
6. Focus on physical and temporary blessings on earth (23:31–33).	6. Focus on spiritual and eternal blessings in heaven (1,2).

1. A better _____: Jesus is persistently _____ truth and teaching his church by his Word and the Holy Spirit (Heb. 1:1,2; John 15:26).
2. A better _____: Jesus is presently _____ on behalf of all who trust in his final sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins, defending them, and praying for them (Heb. 4:14,15; Ro. 8:34).
3. A better _____: Jesus is powerfully _____ over every detail of the universe, building his church, governing the nations, directing the weather, and defeating his enemies according to his perfect plan (Eph. 1:20–22; Heb. 2:8; Mt. 16:18).